

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ekkehard KOERNER, et al.

Serial No.: 10/508,878

Filing Date: September 23, 2004

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING AN ANNULAR ELEMENT COMPRISING  
AN INNER TOOTHING, ESPECIALLY A SLIDING SLEEVE, AND  
DEVICE FOR CARRYING OUT THE METHOD

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-  
identified application as follows: